

DECLASSIFIED PA/HO Department of State E.O. 12958, as amended June 21, 2006

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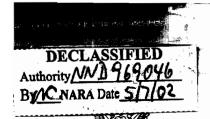
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SUBJECT: REPIR: IRAGI FOREIGN MINISTRY'S REACTION TO DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON US PERSONNEL FOR USINT

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE FROM THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, DATED JULY 29 WAS: RECETVED FROM: USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH AUGUST 3: "FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN AFFIRMED TODAY THAT MEASURE OF BREAKING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ISSTILL: VALID! AND THAT NO CHANGE WHATSOEVER IS INTRODUCED ON THIS MEASURE. THE SPOKESMAND WHO WAS COMMENTING ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY A U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN THURSDAY ON THE ASSIGNMENT OF A USS. DIPLOMAT IN BAGHDAD SAID. WHAT OCCURREDUDID NOT GO BEYOND THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO DIPLOMATS FOR THE USS INTERESTS SECTION IN THE BELGIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD, IN RETURN FOR THE PRESENCE OF TWO IRAGI DIPLOMATS IN THE TRAGI INTERESTS SECTION IN THE INDIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. THIS MEASURE (PRESENCE OF TRAGE AND U.S. DIPLOMATS), MADE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SEVERED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ AND THE U.S. . IS BY NO MEANS A NOVEL! MEASURE, HAVING BEEN AGREED URON SOME MONTHS AGO FOR THE SAKE OF PRESERVING THE INTERESTS OF IRAGIS, AS IS CUSTOMARY IN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS"".

"THE SPOKESMAN CLARIFIED. "THE RUPTURE OF DIPLOMATIC AND ECC" NOMIC RELATIONS THEN RESORTED TO BY IRAG AND OTHER ARAB STATES WAS DUE TO THE U.S. BACKING OF THE ZIONIST AGGRESSION AND TO HER CONTINUED ANIMOSITY TOWARDS NATIONALIST AND PATRICTIC ISSUES.





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TELEGRAM



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THIS U.S. BACKING FOR ZIONIST AGGRESSION IN THE POLITICAL,
MATERIAL AND MILITARY SPHERES, IS ON THE INCREASE AND WITH MOUNTING OBSTINATION AND COMPLETE ALIGNMENT WITH THE ENEMY AGAINST THE
INTERESTS AND RIGHTS OF THE ARAB NATION. IT IS NOT STRANGE,
THEREFORE, THAT THE U.S. SPOKESMAN COMES OUT WITH THIS:
ANNOUNCEMENT AND AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, SINCE IT IS PART AND
PARCEL OF THE U.S. MACHINATIONS DESIGNED TO MISLEAD OUR ARAB
MASSES WITH A VIEW TO SECURE PASSAGE TO U.S. AGGRESSIVE GOALS
AGAINST OUR JUST ISSUES, CHIEF AMONG WHICH IS THE PALESTINE
ISSUE. THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS ALSO AN ATTEMPT FOR A U.S. REHABILITATION IN THE ARAB REGION WHOSE MASSES KNOW VERY WELL
THE REALITY OF U.S. ATTITUDE, WHICH IS ALWAYS HOSTILE TO THEIR
INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES.'J

